

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 13-34 were pending in this application. Claim 13 has been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the cancelled claim in one or more related applications.

Claims 1 and 25 have been amended for purposes of clarity. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification at, *inter alia*, page 1, lines 14-21.

Claims 14-24 have been amended to depend from claim 1. Claims 26-34 have been amended to correct claim dependency.

It is believed that no new matter is introduced by the amendments made herein. Upon entry of the present amendments, claims 1, 2, 6 and 14-34 will be pending in this application.

**THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH,
FOR LACK OF ENABLEMENT SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN**

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 13-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, allegedly for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that while adequate support can be found “for improving the quality of the fur in some dogs and cats, applicant has failed to show support for the out right claiming of preventing pigmentation abnormalities of all carnivores” (see Office Action, page 3, lines 8-10).

On December 4, 2007, Applicants’ representative Ann Chen telephoned the Examiner to discuss this rejection and proposed certain claim amendments. During the telephone call, the Examiner indicated that she may be willing to allow claim 1 if the term “preventing” is replaced with “treating or correcting.”

In view of the comments made by the Examiner during the call, Applicants have amended claim 1 to replace the term “preventing” with “treating or correction.” Support for the amendments can be found in the specification at, *inter alia*, page 1, lines 14-21. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection regarding amended claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Regarding claims 25-34, it appears that the Examiner has improperly imported a use limitation into the composition claims. Nevertheless, solely to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended claim 25 to recite “[a] domestic carnivore food composition for treating or correcting pigmentation abnormalities and/or improving the quality of the fur.” Support for the amendments can be found in the specification at, *inter*

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alia, page 1, lines 14-21. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection regarding amended claim 25 and its dependent claims.

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CONCLUSION

As all rejections are believed to be overcome, all claims are believed to be in condition or allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. An early notice to that effect would be appreciated. Should the Examiner not agree with Applicants' position, then a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues and expedite the eventual allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 18, 2008

REC. NO. 49,013

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